China. A Memorandum of.Understanding (MoU) on Tourism Cooperation with Peoples' Republic of China has been signed. An air service between China and India has already started.

Promotion of tourist places in Ranthambhcr and Sawai Madhopur

†1365. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government are taking to promote Ranthambhor, Tiger Project and Sawai Madhopur as tourist places;

(b) the number of foreign tourists visited Rajasthan during the last one year and number of tourists who visited Sawai Madhopur; and

(c) the total number of tourist places in the Rajasthan and steps Government are taking to promote such spots alongwith the number of tourists visited each of the tourist place during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism promotes India as a whole including tourist places in Rajasthan through production of publicity material and dissemination of information through India tourism Offices in India and abroad.

(b) the number of foreign tourists who visited Rajasthan and Sawai Madhopur during the year 2002 are estimated as 428437 and 6185 respectively.

(c) Rajasthan has a large number of tourist places. Estimated tourist visits to some of the more popular places are as under—

Place	Foreign tourists	Indian tourists
Jaipur	81451	589414
Udaipur	101303	471576
Jodhpur	38565	385700
Jaisalmer	25862	96642

†Original notice ot the question was received in Hindi.

Mewar (Chrttorgarh-Kumbhalgarh) has been identified for development as a destination and the following works have been sanctioned by the Department of Tourism during the current financial year:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Work	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
SEL Show at Kumbhalgarh Fort	195.00	195.00
SEL Show at Chittorgarh Fort	206.10	206.10
General lighting of the monuments around Kumbhalgarh Fort	33.60	33.60

The Department of Culture has also sanctioned development works worth Rs. 1212.40 lakhs at 15 Jain Monuments in Rajasthan in commemoration of 2600 years of Tirthankara Mahavira's Janma Kalyanak. Archaeological Survey of India has also taken up devebpment/conservation works at several protected monuments in the State including Ranthambhor, Chittorgarh, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer etc.

Development of tourism in Rajasthan

†1366. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourism schemes for development of Jaisalmer, Chittorgarh and Kumbhalgarh, proposed by the State Government are pending with the Central Government for clearance;

(b) if so, by when they are likely to be cleared;

(c) whether the State Government had also sought the financial aid for development of Haroti tourism circuit and protections and development of ancient temples of Ausiyan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has already sanctioned following works at Chittorgarh and Kumbhalgarh under a

†Original notice ot the question was received in Hindi.